

1	2	3	4	5
(ii)	Death Rate (per 1000 population)	22.8	15.0	9.0* (SRS 1995)
(iii)	Total Fertility Rate	5.97	4.5	3.5 (SRS : 1993)
(iv)	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	146	110	74 (SRS 1995)
(v)	Couple Protection Rate (percent)	N.A.	22.8	46.5* (P.D. 1996)
(vi)	Cumulative Number of births averted (in million)	0.04	44.19	197.39* (P.D. 1996)

* : Figures are provisional.

N.A. : Not Available

P.D. : Programme Data

[English]

Private Sector in National Waterways

1440. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of national waterways which are proposed to be used for river transport;

(b) whether private sector will be involved in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details in regard to invite tenders on Build, Operate and Transfer basis?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The details of National Waterways which are open for river transport are given below :

(i) National Waterway No. 1 (1620 kms.)

The Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system connecting Haldia-Calcutta-Farakka-Semaria-Patna-Varanasi and Allahabad was declared as National Waterway in the year 1986.

(ii) National Waterway No. II (891 kms.)

The Brahmaputra connecting Dhubri-Tezpur-Guwahati-Dibrugarh and Sadiya, was declared as National Waterway in the year 1988.

(iii) National Waterway No. III (205 kms.)

West Coast Canal system stretching from Kottapuram to Kollam (168 kms.) alongwith Champakara Canal (14 kms.) and Udyogmandal canal (23 kms.) was declared as National Waterway in the year 1993.

(b) and (c). As per policy of the Government, the Private Sector may be involved in the development of infrastructure facilities and the scheme is being finalised.

Maintenance of N.H.-47, Tamil Nadu

1441. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to maintain the Trivandrum-Kanyakumari National Highway No. - 47 in Traffic worthy condition; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Development and Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and they are kept in traffic worthy condition within the available funds. In the 8th Five Year Plan, 5 number of improvement works amounting to Rs. 194.67 lakhs have been sanctioned so far for the improvement of Trivandrum-Kanyakumari section of National Highway No. 47 and the same are in different stages of progress.

Silt in Reservoirs

1442. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

SHRI N.J. RATHWA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that huge quantity of silt has accumulated in the reservoirs situated in various parts of the country, especially the tribal and backward areas of Gujarat thereby affecting the water storage capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of financial assistance made available to Gujarat during the last three years till today;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated or proposed to be formulated by the Government to prevent

the accumulation of silt in the reservoirs of the tribal and backward areas of Gujarat; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Siltation of reservoirs is a natural phenomenon and provisions are made in the capacity of all reservoirs including the reservoirs situated in the tribal and backward areas of Gujarat for accommodating the silt.

(b) Based on the analysis of capacity survey data of representative reservoirs in the country, the region/river basin-wise sedimentation (siltation) rate are as under :

S.No.	Region	Sedimentation/Siltation Rate (Hectare-metre/100 square Kilometre/Year)
1.	Himalayan region (Indus, Ganga, Brahmaputra basin)	Varies from 5.658 to 27.85
2.	Indo-Gangetic plains	Varies from 0.3 to 16.03
3.	East flowing rivers excluding Ganga upto Godavari	6.08 in case of Hirakud reservoir.
4.	Deccan Peninsular east flowing river including Godavari	Varies from 0.15 to 12.16
5.	Narmada Tapi basin	Varies from 3.64 to 7.16
6.	West flowing rivers	Varies from 0.96 to 25.4

(c) and (d). No financial assistance is provided to the States for desiltation of reservoirs. Soil conservation measures, afforestation and water management practices in the catchment of River Valley Projects adopted by the State Governments are expected to reduce the rate of siltation in the reservoirs to some extent.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Laboratories of Government Polytechnics

1443. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of laboratories of Government Polytechnics modernised with the assistance of World Bank in Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh separately;

(b) the amount of World Bank assistance spent for this purpose so far;

(c) the number of educational research centres set up with the help of World Bank assistance. State-wise; and

(d) the funds proposed to be spent during 1996-97 on this programme in both the States separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The total number of laboratories of Government Polytechnics being modernised with the World Bank assistance in Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh is 223 and 77 respectively. The amount spent for this purpose as on 30-9-1996 is Rs. 155.12 million for Rajasthan and Rs. 30.77 for Himachal Pradesh.

(c) The educational research centres are not established with the World Bank assistance.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Kendriya Yantriki Sangathan

1444. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the functions of Kendriya Yantriki Sangathan and the duties of its Chief Engineer;

(b) the number of complaints with dates received since last year against its Chief Engineer and details of the action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the organisation by removing irregularities prevailing in this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Kendriya Yantriki Sangathan (Central Mechanical Organisation) of the Central Water Commission is responsible for assisting the State Governments/Project Authorities in the work relating to construction methods and equipment planning, procurement of construction equipments including import, Technical Documentation and publication work in the Central Water Commission. The Chief Engineer in-charge of the Central Mechanical Organisation is the Wing Head and is responsible for overall supervision of all the activities of the Organisation.

(b) During the year 1995 and 1996, till now, three complaints, one dated 25.4.96 and two dated 27.7.96 were received in the Ministry against the Chief Engineer in-charge of the Central Mechanical Organisation, Central Water Commission. These were examined and were found to be not specific and, therefore, no action has been considered necessary.

(c) Corrective measures are taken whenever specific irregularities are noticed.